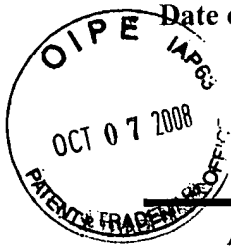


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Attorney Docket No. 27353-501 UTIL



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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APPLICANTS :	Blackburn, <i>et al.</i>	CONFIRMATION NUMBER :	4288
SERIAL NUMBER :	09/967,321	EXAMINER :	Ann Y. Lam
FILING DATE :	October 1, 2001	ART UNIT :	1641
FOR :	<b>METHODS</b>		

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**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
DATED APRIL 7, 2008**

In response to the final Office Action mailed on April 7, 2008, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116. Also submitted herewith is a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3) for a small entity.

This response is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and the RCE submission fee of \$405.00 for a small entity. With this extension, the Amendment and Response is considered timely filed by October 7, 2008.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.